

SCIENCE

And Technology Program



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Fluctuating water levels at Canyon Ferry Reservoir expose 20 to 30 feet of the shoreline annually. This riparian zone is critical habitat for fish, waterfowl, and other wildlife. This exposed draw-down zone is also susceptible to erosion by wind and water, impacting air and water quality. Revegetation of the reservoir draw-down zone will help alleviate many of these problems.

The objectives of this project were:

- Determine which areas have potential for vegetation reestablishment.
- Determine which plants have potential for growth within the draw-down zone.
- Determine the most efficient way to plant large exposed areas.

Personnel from the Canyon Ferry Project Office and the Ecological Research and Investigations Group have planted five study plots at Whites Bay during the 1999 growing season. Each plot was planted with a juncus, a spikerush, and several carex species, as well as being seeded with Garrisons Creeping Foxtail (a water tolerant grass). A mix of willows, Golden willow, Red-Osier Dogwood, and Bald Cypress trees was also planted in these five plots. Over 1,200 trees and shrubs were planted. Global positioning system locations of the planting sites were recorded and photographs were taken of the planted areas.

Canyon Ferry Project Office

An annual report will be written giving detailed information of the research project. The fall evaluation was completed in October 1999.